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Colonel McClure is discriminatingly just in his estimates and dispassionate in his criticisms ; only occasionally is his personal bias or prejudice apparent. His style is that of the experienced journalist, simple and easy, although it is not especially picturesque. The work may be considered substantially free from errors of fact.

HERMAN V. AMES.

*Horace Greeley, Founder and Editor of The New York Tribune.* By WILLIAM ALEXANDER LINN. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1903. Pp. xiii, 267.)

THIS volume is the third in Appletons' "Series of Historic Lives." Thwaites's biographies of Father Marquette and Daniel Boone preceded it, and A. C. Buell's sketch of Sir William Johnson is now its successor. Mr. Linn's studies of character in his excellent *Story of the Mormons* probably afforded him less preparation for this portraiture of Horace Greeley than he derived from his experience as a journalist in New York city and in the office of the *Tribune*. He has, therefore, enjoyed the advantage of a personal acquaintance with his subject.

Throughout this little volume the skill of the expert news-writer is pleasantly evident. The story runs quickly and lucidly. There is no verbiage. The dramatic situations are seized, and Greeley is made to reveal, usually in his own words, the defects and the virtues of his personality. In the preface the outline of the whole sketch is condensed into one sentence :

. . . A gawky country lad, with a limited education and a slight acquaintance with the printer's trade, comes to the principal city of the land with a few dollars in his pocket and a single suit of clothes, and fights a fight the result of which is the founding of the most influential newspaper of his day, and the acquirement of a reputation as its editor which secures for him a nomination for the presidency of the United States. . . . (p. 5).

In less than sixty pages is summarized the story of Greeley's earlier career, of his evolution from a poverty-stricken country boy in New England into an editor of a literary weekly in New York city, a Whig politician and pamphleteer, and a protégé of Thurlow Weed. Fifty pages more contain the story of the foundation of the *Tribune* in 1841, and an analytical estimate of the relations between Greeley's personality and the newspaper that he had created. One chapter is devoted to Greeley's advocacy of a protective tariff down to the era of the Mexican War, and another chapter to the attitude of Greeley and his paper towards the slavery question down to the outbreak of the Civil War.

In the decade 1850-1860 Greeley stood at the zenith of his influence and reputation. His word was law among the northern farmers, who had learned to read the *Weekly Tribune* as though it were a weekly Gospel. Raymond's *Times* was probably more popular in New York city than the *Tribune*, but Raymond himself, when berating Greeley for his unrelenting opposition to Seward's nomination in 1860, referred to the *Tribune* as "the most influential political newspaper in the country." Perhaps Bennett's *Herald* had more readers, yet Bennett was not

highly respected, and no one thought of the *Herald* as an oracle. But Greeley had become the journalistic representative of the conscience of the North. Only Governor Seward knew what unworthy passions had warped the great editor, and until 1860 Seward kept that knowledge to himself.

In the last two chapters Mr. Linn presents the evidences of Greeley's decline and fall, his fierce yearning for office, his jealousy of Raymond and the *Times*, his puerile egotism and lack of balance, his distrust and captious criticism of Lincoln, his friendliness with the more disreputable elements of the local Republican party who followed the fortunes of Reuben E. Fenton, and finally the extraordinary pliability which made him the presidential candidate of his lifelong enemies.

Incidentally Mr. Linn makes it plain that Greeley profited by the advice and assistance of a remarkable company of associates. Men like Henry J. Raymond, Sidney Howard Gay, Charles A. Dana, and George Ripley helped to make the *Tribune*, to build up the influence of its editor-in-chief, and to correct the vagaries of that versatile genius. Mr. Linn barely glances at the vulgarities of speech and manner which so often made Greeley appear to his companions like an overgrown and badly-trained boy. Indeed, if the gossip that still circulates among those who knew Greeley is true, it would be impossible to put in print a faithful description of the man in his petty moods, and yet he was the very soul of courtesy and tenderness to those who could claim his affection, and even to those who could not he was often over-generous.

A man of genius and a lovable nature, he was, nevertheless, as Mr. Linn suggests, a living illustration of the need of a thorough training in the schools. Horace Greeley educated himself by native intellectual force, but it is clear that he never acquired that sanity, steadiness of judgment, and self-control which are among the finest flowers of character, and which may be cultivated amid the formative intimacies of college life. Mr. Linn's study of the great editor should be read as a companion volume to Greeley's *Recollections of a Busy Life*. With the two works in hand, it should be easy to evoke once more the attractive, powerful, and yet disappointing personality of Horace Greeley.

CHARLES H. LEVERMORE.

*The Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson.* By DAVID MILLER DEWITT. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1903. Pp. 646.)

THIS book is one of the most important which have yet appeared dealing with that comparatively untouched field, the Reconstruction period. It is something more than an account of the impeachment and trial; it is also a picture-gallery and presents several old faces in colors not altogether familiar to students or creditable to the originals. The introduction, more than one hundred pages, is devoted to a statement of the theories and problems of Reconstruction and to an account of the struggle between the President and Congress to carry out their respective